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THE
IRISHMAN'S TOUR
OF
RUIN.

BY W. FLOOD, ESQ.

DUBLIN :
PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHOR,
And Sold by all Booksellers.
1858.



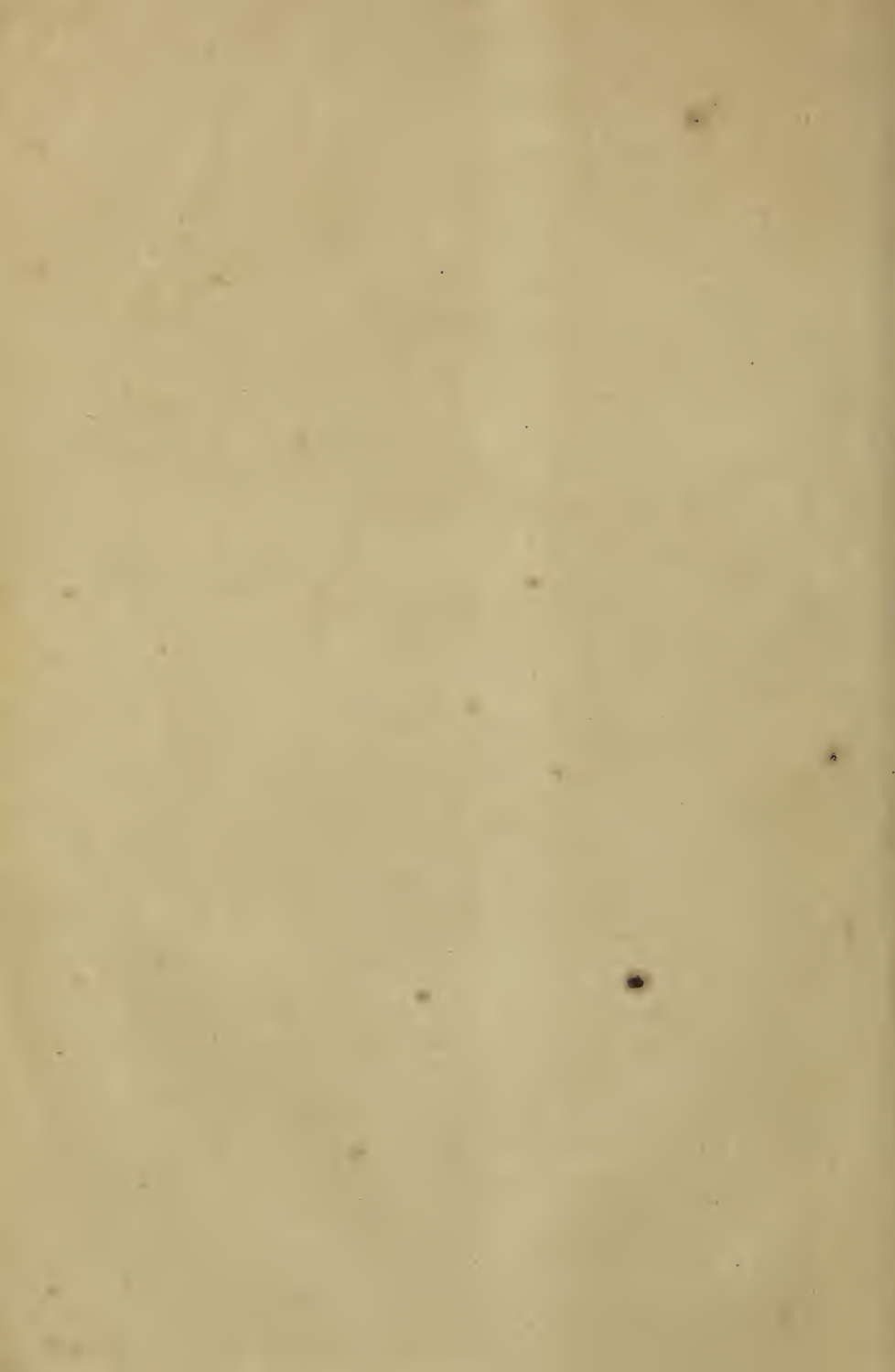
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THE TOUR OF RUIN.

CHAPTER I.

IN a small little village in the South of Ireland resided a family of the name of Gallons, whose domestic roof sheltered four in number, a mother, father, daughter, and son,—which son moved in the circles of life under the name of Tom,—a name which cannot compete in the numerical line with many of a more favourable tendency in Ireland, especially amongst the lower grades of society. This Tom, however, was a man of middle stature, and of very muscular nerves and thews, with a dark pensive brow, shooting from under which flashed two dark eyes, the corners of which exhibited a very glistening expression of artifice; his forehead was high and projecting, presenting that craniological development, which, according to a phrenological view, indicated a reflective and philosophical mind, and displayed, in the most obvious and striking manner, the bumps of contemplation and discretion; and so it happened that the supposed organs of thought and passion in the brain quite corresponded with his actions, and were exactly congruous with his thoughts. At this time, he, however, filled the post of a country veterinary surgeon, and was of the greatest utility to the neighbouring gentry; for no horse was ever bought without having previously passed his discerning eye; and no opinion was looked up to so much as Tom's. But time, which is the sad revealer of all things, began to point out unmistakeable signs of falling off as it were creeping into his system, and unhinging his faculties for matters of a weighty consideration; yet such were his propensities at this time, and so great was the swell of mortal vanity, and the tide of deluging bacchanalianism, insomuch that it inundated Tom all over, and drove him upon the perishable sands of this world's sea, sheltered alone by the few boon companions who, in time of prosperity, when the morning of life is dawning for you, and the sun of life is shining most brilliantly, then bask under the gentle influence of your atmosphere; but when becoming icicled, and that the frigid winds set in,

they then decamp to a more sunny clime. The thorough scoundrel is incapable of gratitude; he seems transmuted by the dark alchemy of his own heart; kindnesses accumulated upon him become injuries. Tom, at this time, was gradually elapsing out of the good opinion of the gentry, who began to look upon him with an eye of pity and contempt, and to read penury inscribed upon his countenance. His vestments exhibited signs of distress, and circumstances in general began to weigh heavy with him; however, he held on, owing to the exertions of his sister Peggy, who maintained him by means of her own industry, as a country milliner. But her conversation and history of Tom seeming worthy of record, I therefore give it to you, Reader, as follows:—

“Will,” said Peggy, “and so Tom becamе well known to iverybody, and his kumpany was kourted by all; but he got beyont himshilf with conceits, and begun to drink ferociously, and dail in ould horses; ai, and his advice was much estaimed by the paiple, as he is what is called a known jokky. But the kursed killin’ drink was beginnin’ its plaster of Paris work upon his face, as he loked soft and blouted, and kurquibbles were observed upon his eyebrows, and ripe blossoms upon his cheeks, which would niver bring forth fruit, not havin’ the nourishin’ sap at the root; and the shame blossoms or sparks would niver kindle rightly upon the wick, there not been sufficient of grase to faid it, only that a little guano or artificial sthuff should be forced into its composition, to throw out unnatural blossoms, and make nathur take a false stip. Will, to be shure, my brave Tom got mighty poor and unbekummin’ to luk at, as his ilbows were jumpin’ out of his coat, and his nais were pushin’ their way out through his britchis, and his toes were paipin’ out through his shoes, and his hair was observed out through the top of his hat, ai, just resimblin’ a bird’s nist, and his socks had mouths upon thim behind aigual to young thrushes, and he was all together dun brown. But one day, as luck would have it, a gintleman very high up, and one whom Tom oftē befriended with his advice upon horse flesh, saw Tom, and tould him to kum up to him on the next day. With that Tom called, and the gintleman gave him five pounds, to go and buy a daicent shuit of clothes, and thin to cum up to him athout delay. Tom did so. But I must tell you, Tom at this time was cumpany kaipin’ with the ruf and skruf of the town, and drinkin’ with thim from hand to fist; and would not turn his back upon a crapper of whiskey, if it was even offered to him by the worst of the bobtails or ragtails of the town. Will, Tom had one qualifying quality in him, and that was good natur’; and shure such is not to be wundered at, whin I heard for sartain that he was a half gintle-

man, and I'll tell you how : his mother, that is mine too, whin about the unthinkin' age of seventain, fell in with a grate puff of a gintleman, who decoyed the kraitur from her home. Will, this gintleman walked through the fashionable circles of life under the name of Bennitt. He was a man of a ruby complexion, and plethoric habit, and of a very apoplectic aspect altogether ; his nick, which seemed from its rotundity to come on a similar scale of latitude with his body, was, however, the most dangerous symptom which presented itself. Will, this fillow, by big promises, and grate oaths of justice, threw his decait upon the waik, unprotected famale, who had not sufficient strength to kaip out of the coils of the sarpint, or the paws of the bare. And so Tom was born, and had the kasht of kountenance of father and mother, and kame up to the gintleman, drissed up to the vains of nicety, and he likewise perfumed and scinted from hid to toe, and a wiper hangin' out of the tail of his coat that would do a body for a shilk apron, or for a color at a sthand-house at a racecourse. Will, to be shure and to be sartain, the gintleman tould Tom, from his own two lips, to go out to the sthable, and git the bist saddled horse the pramases would affurd. Will, Tom did go, and the gintleman tould him to ride down the town, and to put up at the hotel. Will, Tom likewise did so ; and everybody wundered at the sight, to sai Tom so will dressed, and so grandly mounted, ai on a baist valued one hundred bright sovereigns ; and shure every person would come up to Tom, and pass their bist respects to him, and say ' More power, Mr. Tom ; you are up in the wurd again, and that you may always sthay so.' ' O yis,' Tom would say, ' twilve fait high again.' Will, Tom was ordered to ride down the town the nixt day, and put up again at the hotel, and to make the sthones of the yard gingle, with the dash of his silver against them, when payin' off the ostler. Will, Tom did so ; and the whole town, allana machree, was in a regular conflagration, from top to bottom. Nuthin' was moutfled about among the quality but how that Tom was as high as Gilderoi, and had no other dirt about him but riches. Will, anyhow it pierced the lugs, ai aqual to airings, of a Miss Carty, who drew the breath of life next dure to the hotel, and who saw the fire flash from the hails of Tom's baist ; an whin Tom would be showin' off, she ushed also to hare the singing of his grand cuttin' whip. Will, this lady lived with her sister, and sported the name of Shophy ; she was a slinder kratur, very gonteel, and had two watterry eyes, and a sunk in forehead ; besides a watterry hand, and a moist foot, all of which bespaiks a waik, narvious state ; and accordin' to shuch an unthinkin' mind, and baitin' hart, sudden frits at nuthen at all, and

no frits at things of daip gravity and konsideration. Will, she pulled on with her sister, and gave her nuthin' for livin' with her; and besides she was will larned in all the languages, and fit to kaip cumpany with the bist in the land. She ushed always obsarve one way of livin', for if she opened her tongue among the ignorant, she would be inshulted by thim, on account of their ignorance, and they not known whin they would inshult a body; and likewise they 'takin' every skame to cut at a person, and to tare their failins', for they bein' coorse-grained thimshelves, thinks a sharp instrument would not inter the tinder pelt of a larned, respectable body. But anyhow Tom was invited to a snack at Miss Carty's, and the young lady bein' decaived by the grate uproar about Tom, and her considerin' cap bein' takin' off her, she tied herself to the shame lad of a brother of mine, for life, and she had lashins and whips of muney, ai three hundred a yare clare, athout thithe or raint-charge; for she always lived kunnin' and savin'; and ushed to say this—'I hare, and see, and say nuthin'; and I ate, and drink, and pay nuthin';' so you may be shure she filled Tom's pockets with the yallow chaps, for she was so narvious that she feared to let a heapenny laive her sight, while, at the shame time she threw herself into the arms of Tom, and surrinded him up her liberty; and now he sthicks to the ould rule, that is, to never spare horse-flesh, nither nurse your wife. And, moreover, the same Tom ushed undiscrentionable authority over his unurshed wife; and after shome time he fell into pits of mud, and ugly quagmires, and his karakter was guttured up to the eyes; but, by the marest chance on arth, he ruz an ould garrin of a horse, and, a race bein' advertised, nothin' would do my bould Tom but inter his ould, worn-out, spavined garrin. The stakes were a saddle and bridle, and a tarein' joint of a lig of mutton, just hot from the baist; and all this was put up to be run for by no horses except farmers' horses, who likewise were to be ridden by no jokeys except by big pucks of farmers, who gothered together to run far the stakes. And a quare sight it was! Fourtain started for the race acress a kourse one mile in lngth, and tin leps into the bargain. Seven of the jokeys of farmers had no saddles, and consequently mounted the baists barebacked, and rode for the grand sthakes. The sivin others were bridled and saddled, and well-primed into the bargain. Seven wore their handkerchiefs tied round their heads, and a nait knott on thim behind, for jokey caps, while thother sevin wore their night-caps, not puttin' thimselves about in buying coloured caps. Will, off they stharterd over the mile kourse, which was one side of Belturbet, and aich buiy had a big whottle to stir his baist up with. And to it they wint, and every chap did wield his

fierce bludgeon for victory. But anyhow the first haith was won by Tom, altho' his baist balked several times, and thrun him four times. The second haith was the rail touch, for the blood of the jokey farmers was ruz, and moreover what's brid and ingindered in the bone, must cum out in the flish. Will, to be shure and to be sartain, off they went, and got on purty paicable, till they arrived at the first lep, and there, allana machree, the work begun; they all turned tail to the lep, and commenced wattling aich other most unmarcifully. Tom, in the maintime, parcaivin' the grate scrimmage, and bein' double-loaded and well primed with the rail sthuf, and havin' fire in the pan of his eye, and a strake of fire out of the korners of thim aqual to commits, put spurs and whip to his racer, and never cried crack till he raiched the winnin' post. And thin he was ruz upon min's shoulders, and chaired for miles round the kourse. The other racers were all this times beltin' aich other for the bare life; some had their baists killed under thim, while others had red night-caps in place of white ones, from the rail dint of blood. But I'll tell you a sthory, and one that I saw with my own two eyes:—

"There was a nait, clain-skinned, daicint raired kreatur of a girl, who was kourtin one of the jokeys, and was sthuffed up to the throttle in luv with him, and fairly kilt drainin' and thinkin' of the shame chap. Will to be shure, whin the fight aruz—which was as grate a doin' as whin Buony crassed the Alps—this kreatur was in the lingsh of a sthraw of gettin parralathics, whin she sain her swaitheart handled most unmarcifully, and herde the roars of the fightin jokeys rise into a regular whirlwind, and swaip through the crowd, aqual to a fairy blast, stirrin' up all parteis, in orderto bekum fanned by the furnace of its blaze. Will this luv bint girl slung hersilf right apon her bachelor, and in doin so, twilve wattles hopped of her back, and she was fairly kilt, for she was bruised, and scratched, and town, and blakined, ai, aqual to a shoe you would be afther polishin', but sthills she kipt her houl, and saved the life of her swaitheart by rail sincerity and bravoism; and whin he kum to, he ups and he sais, Upon my stars and garter, I niver sain rail frindship afore till now; and with that, he mounts his racing baist, and puts his darlint one behind him, and gives her a swig of a bottle of whiskey, and takes a pull himself out of the shame agraiable bottle, and gives his baist a drop too, to smuthin down its hair, and thin he lites his pipe, and gigs home in a slang gallop, and is niver sain or herd of as to inter a race kourse agin. His darlint dotins, who cut capers through life, and gostled about under the name of Sally Flannigan, was a slip with small hands and small fait, only for karrybunkles, she had also a paiked nose, and

round chaiks, and a thither in her way of diskoursin', which plainly presentid that she had a bitter drop in her komposition, and a little vinegar in her noggin; will, she had also two dazzin' hartbraking eyes set in her hid, like two blazin' sthars, and they nivir lift the illimints of her hid, except with the purpose of grindin' into jelly the buiy they would fall upon; and moreover, a goat with her two eyes would not be long craipin' for ivy. Will, to be shure and to be sartain, this one kourted her bachelor, who kicked through life under the name of Peter Bralligan, who was the first bud of the grate fitin' Bralligans of the County Clare, and likewise first cock of the roost in his own county; and he was the lad who put the girls in japardy with his sportins and dashins. He was a buiy of middle hoit, and plain bekummin faitures, with the exciption of one big hangin'-out tooth, that a body could aisily air their shirt upon; he also had a fiery glance in his eyes that bespoke ferocity, and a bad khast betune them also; he had alsho an unaivin unsittled temper, as was aisly sain from his fitin' movemints; and he alsho drank largely, which incraised his divilmints, and belted consideration out of his raich ontirely, and put his mind on the high horse, whin in reality he was futtin' it through the gutter and mud, ai, nai daip, and he in full purshuit of the big pichpit of tormint; whin, at the shame time, his mind was laidin' him to the belief that he was roulin' in the gulf of plaisure and contintment; but, betune ourshelves, the ould boy was conceailed behind the skrain, kickin' beautiful burnin' coals of beauty and pleasure before the same lad's eyes, and drivin' the spharks right into his brain, by his own concoctions, and alsho by the helpin' hand of his collicetin' agint here upon arth, Mr. Whiskey;—ai, as rousin' a kumpanion as ever you mixed with, or danced with, or exchanged looks, only that he always takhes a body short in the latter ind, and puts a body's fait where their hid ought to be; and their conscience mighty convanient to his own frind's locality. Will, anyhow, to be dun' with the likhes of these, I'll tell you what tuk place. Mr. Bralligan offered marriage and got houlted to Miss Flannigan, and a merry affair enuf the widdin' was; cousins, aunts and uncles, and grandmothers and grandfathers, and luvè children, and wild airy blades of slips, tugether with rollicksome frolicksome buiys from the nayborin' parish were there. Fiddlers, fifers, bagpipers, and flute-players were there. Halligans, Bralligans, Calligans, Malligans, Dowlans, and Nowlans likewise were there; and the short and long of it was, ivery person that likhed were there. Yit, however, a royal salute of music opened the grand party, which formed thimshelves into a prociission. Nixt cums on the widdin' brikfast, and aich buiy laid in a mighty daicint supply

of the provisions; and aich girl just barely nibbled for gontility sake, and loked abashed whin she would be stared at. Will, nixt cums on the drink, and the divil a sparein' paw misured that out, for it was shuveled out in sthraames, and was the right short, as it cut all afore it and behind it. Will, whin the buiys and their modesht lasses got full belly hould of the oily drink, they set to dancin', and knocked the very divil out of the burds. It was there, alana, you would sai a flash of fire from the twelvecpenny nails skimin' your eyebrow, and cuttin' the very cataract off the pupil of your peeper; it was there you would sai the thuckers and kurquibbles, and cringlines of the drisses made babyrags of from the hoults of the buiys; it was there you would sai tai slippers crumbled into dust; it was there you could fill your basket with hokes and eyes, and pins and strings—all the supphorters of the grand widdin' drisses. But anyhow the conscience decaivin' drink began to be hurled about more gallantly from hand to fist, and the illimint began to kindle into a most inflammatory sthate in the buiys and lasses; and lastly, afore it bruk up a roarin' thunderin fight tuk place; arra, allana, I sain as much hare as would sthuff a saddle fly from one buiy's hed, ai and troth that was forced from it by the claws of a nait famale, who you would think afore that would not luk cruked at a body, nor that sugar would not milt under the innocent kreatur's lips; will thin I sain agin cows' heds that were brought there for baifsthakes sarve as instrumments for smatherin' the paiple into the pussess; and the ind of it is, it was more likhe the faild of battle than anything partainin' to comfort or happiness, and I will niver forgit it as long as I draw breth, for I oftin ushed to wonder afore where all the cross ould womin ushed to cum from. Will, to twisht back to my brave Tom, what do you think but the crowd gothered under him agin on he enterin' his own town, and ruz him and his baist narely skhy high; but Tom in the skuffle turned upside down, and his animal fill upon him, and krushed his intrails fairly out on the morthial spot; and besides I must till you, that the sight of him comin' through the town put me in mind of John Gilpin when the dogs did bark, the childre skraimed, up flew the windys all, and every kreatur cried out will dun as loud as they could ball. Will, after Tom's sling gallop through this parplixing and aggravatin' wurd, his wife tuk his conduct mighty much to heart, for she tumbled into a most bewildered and lamintable sthate—her face turned as yallow as her petticoat, and her lips turned as white as her shlip, and the blood complaitly lift the tops of her toes and her fingers, and aghra she was laminted apon by all the discarnin' and daicint naybors; but she gittin' worse, loked mighty quare ontirely, and thin

bewitchid ; notices and suspicions aruz like fairy blasts, and swipt the paiple's minds and thoughts into the illimints in one blasht; the witches, therefore, were sint for, and introduced by daicint naybors to hirshilf, but she scofed thim all, and thurned her nose and nostrils into the illimints at thim, and ups and said that she was born under the rainy sthormy planet, and that she would waip and cry till she would die, as that was the luck afore hir, and she hoped paice awaited hir hereafter. But anyhow his wife after a bit kum to, and thurned mighty discarnable and understandable, and likewise sharp in the eye and quick on the tongue, and after some time she was sain hugger-muggerin' and cajoulin' with a naybor who lived hard by, and who Tom loked apou as forty-nine degrais below his rank and braidin'. Will anyhow Tom begun to cock his air and telliscope his eye to the andromartins and flustufications of his wife, and from all he sain he filt sthung by forty nittles, and skaled by 100 gallons of boilin' wather, for the shame lad of a naybor was always hangin' and loiterin' about his house, and whin he would be spoke to upon the subject, and axed what brought him there, he would shay he was lukin' at the house, larnin' its construction, in order that some day he could turn arkeytect and earn an honesht livelihood. Will these suspicions saized hould of Tom's mind at once, and he begun to think that his wife must have given some encouragemint to the naybor, for why did he cum there? Will Tom anyhow saddled his baist, and he wint off in a sling gallop for the market; but he had not gone two hundred perches till back he cums, but sight or light of the chap of a naybor he could not sai; will the nixt day he hid himself in a haycock, and nothing was discarnable but his too eyes, but it was all to no ushe, he sain nuthin'. Will, sais Tom at lasht, if she was the divil's aunt she wunt decaive me, for I know she is plannin' to marry the shame buiy should I slip houl't some of these fine mornings, and I think she is decaitful, therefore I will thry her up; so what does my bould Tom do but fill sthone ded, insomuch that there was not a stir out of him, and he whitened his face besides in order to prisint an appairance like a ghost. Will, whin hirshilf sain it, that is Tom's wife, she loked a little amazed and somewhat put about, but kum to by the interfairance of the naybors, who pulled her about, and poured whiskey down hir swallow, to sthrive to comfort the kraitur in hir daip distriss; will, after beain' traited in the likhe manner, she cum to most wunderfully, and said the bist should be dun, and that he should be buried with all the honors of a gintleman, for why, wasn't he one? he was, bekease he kept their kumpany, and was alsho bitter larned, for they axed his advice upon horse-flish, and was guverned and ruled by him. Will,

anyhow night kum on, and kuvered the house with its black mantle, but his protindin' wife was detarmined that too chandles, at laist, should throw light over his corpse, and show the appairance of daicincy outside anyhow, as was the fashion down in that place, that the corpse should be put betune two doors, and be naitly sittled out with his snow white shait upon him. Will, hirshilf was saited upon a chair nixt to hir did husband, whin what kums boulin' into the house but a gintleman, and his gun, and his buiy, who got benighted, and sain the light, and pushed strait forward for the house. Will, they intered, and hirshilf ruz up to do hir rispicts to thim, and to bid thim a harty wilcome, and to till thim to be saited, whin the gintleman thurns about and said he felt much obliged for her kindness and respect.

“ ‘But what did your husband die of?’ sais the gintleman.

“ ‘Will, to be open with you at once, masther, he died of jillosoy and cractness.’

“ Will, afther the gintleman and his buiy were saited some time, she tould thim she wanted to go out to a naybor's house for a daicent buiy to kum in and join the wake. Will, the gintlemen said he felted happy in stayng, and shure enuff, hirshilf had not bain long out whin the ded man stirr'd a bit, and the gintleman's buiy immediately percaived it, and sraiched out, ‘Masther, the ded man is risin’, we are all kilt by the law; murder and robbery; what will bekum of us.’ Will, he loked agin, and the ded man ruz complaitly up; whin the buiy sain that, he fill right into a sthump, stone ded. The gintleman himshilf, havin' sain it, bekum grately frikened and agytated, and leped for his gun, and saized it; the ded man then ruz ontirely, and the gintleman cocked his paice and tould him to sthand back or elshe he would blow the contints of what was in the paice into him, or down his throttle. ‘O be aisy,’ sais the ded man, ‘I am not ded at all, it was only pretince.’ Will, afther sum time both kum too, and the ded man ups an tills the gintleman that that was the only plan he had in order to catch his wife spaikin' to the naybor who lived nixt him, and who was always about his house, and pimpin' into his con-carns. ‘Will,’ sais the gintleman, ‘what is to be dun?’ ‘Why, I will till you in a jiffey,’ sais Tom, the ded man; ‘I will lye down agin, pretindin to be ded, and let you kaip a hard chaik, and you will find that she—that is, my wife—will kum trotting back with that naybor that she is so much spoken of, and that they will go and plan into a room about gittin' married, afore she thinks I am kould in the grave; but I will taich her otherwise.’ Will, afther sum time she cums in, escorted by the naybor, whose heart seem to heave heavily,

and whose nerves seemed to flutter at the affliction, which cast its dismal mantle and direful aspect over the house of the bereaved one. This naybor—or I should rather say, enemy, because his feelings never had been on a fraternal bearing with the late deceased—they were always alienated on account of that green-eyed monster, who seemed to cling about the threshold of connubial bliss, and to peep through the eluded bowers of matrimony, projecting in his gaze the shadow of suspicion and jealousy which haunted the feverish brain of Tom. This person moved in the useful circles of life under the name of Tim Deegan. He was a man of middle height, and well-set features, but of a suavity of manner that was too melliferous to be wholesome, and of that glassy surface which speaks of a dangerous depth and a muddy undercurrent. Will, to be shure and to be sartain, hirshilf saited hirshilf down afore the gintleman, and the buiy of a naybor loked abashed and shy for a while, till he gothered pluck and conceit from a few rousin' tumblers of the rail short, the pure cuttin' sthuff; he thin shuk himshilf, crew, ruffled his fithers and picked the ground for rail divilmint, and thurned a comb upon himshilf as red as a blazin' commit, and what do yuz thinks but he had the bouldness and affruntry to ax the daicint, unoffendin', sportin' gintleman as to who he was, and where he was from, and what he lived upon, and what was he about, and did he hould much land, and who was his father, and what was his way of thinkin'. 'Will,' says the daicint gintleman, 'am I to give you a compleite histry of my life; and, moreover, my way of thinkin' is this, that you are an inquisitive fellow, and nuthin' short of what your prisint appairance bespaks you.' 'O be aisy, my fine fellow,' sais he, 'is it bekease you have a gun you are so bould and sthout upon the tongue?' 'No,' sais the gintleman, 'but I dunt like your luk.' 'O, if that is all, my brave gintleman, blatter Jack Walsh to you, if I was combed aud scalded I would throw up as fine colours as you, ai every bit.' 'Will,' says the gintleman, 'I wish to hould no more diskourse with you.' 'Will,' sais the naybor, 'be it so,' and with that hirshilf, that is, Tom's wife, said she fild tired, and would go into the nixt room to konsider over her affairs, and to lamint in silance over the dare man just departed. Will, she had not been gone long whin my lad of a naybor said he should go also, to krenaun, and pacify, and conshole with the poor hart-broken woman. Will, afther the departure of both, what does my live ded man do but rizes immediately, and when he ruz the young buiy belongin' to the gintleman fill again as ded as a dure nail into a big sthump, and switted and paspired most tremindiously, and gasped by degrais for the bare life. Will, the upshot of it was, that

the ded man aruz, as I said afore, and saizing a big notty blackthorn that was up the chimney, grazed, he sphit, ai, tin times upon his fhist, and curled the dangerous wippon twinty times round his hed, and handid one candle to the gintleman to hould, and at the shame time whispered into his airs that for him to fight alsho like the devil, with the butt ind of his gun, for if they were overcome, and had to bait a retrait, they would be surely kilt and murdered. Will, afther the ded man givin' that paice of advice and information, he boulted right into the room, and the blackthorn cuttin' most samycircular motions in his fhist. Will, what did he thurn his two eyes apou, but his wife and the naybor in daip and airnist chat, and she saited upon his nais, and her arm fouldid round his nick, and the two for all the world likhe man and wife. 'Will, now for it,' sais the ded man, and whit one blow he laid the two as flat as pancakes and as mute as mice, for they thinked that all the divils in hill had aruz, or that, on the other hand, that it was a compleite resurrection, to sai my boy of a ded man whalin' away, and not a flidget upon him but a windin' sheet. Will, afther the awful toxication been over thim, and that the hivy blows begun to bring back their scattered sinsis, the two ruz, and laid upon the ded man most unmercifully, and would have got the bitter of him only that the gintleman droped the chandle and lay to with the butt ind of his fowlin' paice apou thim, and bedad livelled thim as ffast as they got up, for no sooner were they on their fait than they were down agin. Well, anyhow, hirshilf, as if the baitin', like bull baitin', had made hir more tinder and shuple, she craips from under the table, and off she canters, and never cried crack till she was miles afar off. Will, himshilf—that is, the naybor—slinked out after her, and where the wint nobody iver knew, but a trace of either, up to this day, has niver bain diskuvered or hard of."

Tom, therefore, feeling himself quite at liberty as to the disposal of his hand and heart, determined to seek out some Venus whom he could centre his affections upon. In accordance with this very romantic idea, he pitched upon one who moved through life under the appellation of Nancy Sullivan; one who, in every sense of the word, inherited that instinct, tact, and knowledge which is so characteristic of women, and which plants in them that *sedativeness* which is so essential to the *amelioration* of man's circumstances, and of such utility to his domestic arrangements and conjugal bliss, but Nancy seemed to thrall the captive youth by the lambent glories of her destructive gleam, and to manacle him within the precincts of her feminine loveliness, and within the domain of her female virtue; for she sported those raven tresses which were interspersed over her swan-like neck,

and those dark flashing eyes, which regularly shot a volley upon the victim of her vulnerating powers, and which seemed as beacons solely to light to heaven,—potent in their sparkling brilliancy, and playful in delicate tenderness. All these fascinations seemed to operate upon the fierce emotions of Tom, and to kindle raging fires within his human breast, which never could be extinguished except by the docile breath and attractive gentleness of mind, which is woman's best and happiest privilege. Tom, therefore, having at command a tribe of first and second cousins, which were scattered all over the country, and were also of a very martial nature, imbibing such from the present excitement of the times, and likewise being of the greatest utility as auxiliaries in matrimonial matters; he therefore left no stone unturned in order to leap more deeply into her affections; his presence was always at her command, when required; his sage counsel was administered at intervals, when he conjectured it would take a wholesome effect. His martial descent was brought likewise on the tapis, for the purpose of conveying to her mind the sanguine contests his ancestors engaged in, and the accumulation of trouble they bore for their country; and also the large factions they had at their command, the traces of which were visible up to the present day, and crowned his head with laurels when he brought into reminiscence their chivalrous acts of bygone days. Nancy, however, although much captured by the rehearsal of Tom's warlike strains, yet conceived an idea that it would be ruinous to enter into a matrimonial engagement with one whom she looked upon to be mantled over with the deepest penury; and that marriage was so interwoven with worldly affairs that it required the most profound consideration. The necessity of reflection before engaging in so important a contract as that of marriage is quite evident, and yet how many most expeditiously tie the knot for life without at all considering the consequences, and then, when it is too late, bitterly repent of their temerity and thoughtlessness.

In the interim, Tom seemed to throw overboard all philosophical dictations, and to firmly adhere to the one thing most needful, and such was her hand and heart. Nancy, however, having weighed matters well in her mind, was determined to give a refusal to Tom's proposal, let what would accrue; consequently, she told him that circumstances tended to their disadvantage, and that he must look out in life for one more worthy of his hand and heart than what she was.

Tom, on receiving a final damper to all his expectations, resolved on setting out for the city, in order that the gay fashionables and bustling noise, which seems to be the life of such a place, may relieve his mind of the accumulation of distracting thoughts, which at inter-

vals seemed to be gnawing him to the heart, and nearly to be extinguishing that vital spark which seemed to ignite for his Nancy alone. But, alas! Tom was bitterly deceived; for her image haunted him wheresoever he went, and, during times, in his lupineous perambulations, he would start, as if she presented herself before him, and whispered into his ear—hope on, hope still, hope on for ever! But, however, it was during one of Tom's vesper perambulations that reality supplied the place of imagination; for, lo and behold you, there stood his Nancy, equipped in all the splendour of feminine loveliness, manifestly demonstrating to the world that natural rural complexion which all the paintings and decorations of mankind cannot compete with, nor cast the slightest tinge of artificial decoration on a similarity with nature's pure refreshing dews. Tom, on first casting his eyes on all which appeared most dear to him upon this earth, felt a thrilling sensation seize him, and a vivifying of those nerves which heretofore were relaxed. His Nancy was his alpha and omega,—the first thing which entered into his reminiscence at his aurora rising, and the last thing which entered his feverish brain previous to his somniferous repose; still Nancy was the same—as adhesive as ever to her word, although wavering a little betimes on account of a diminution of bachelors, and being well aware that, should all fail, that then Tom might serve for what the Irish call a *daicent resarve*. And to completely throw him overboard seemed, in her eyes, not to be very philosophical, but to keep him suspended by a fibre of hope seemed to be her chief aim and most hearty desire, never for one moment calculating on the feelings of one so deeply smitten in love. Tom, however, having put his machinations into an operative manner, found out the address of his Nancy, and the next day, at the usual visiting hour, he paid his avocation at her house, and there feasted his love in bringing to light his bygone days of happiness, when he basked under the sunshine of his Nancy's smiles, and appeased his obstreperous love on her rosy cheeks, extracting from them that refreshing and salutary dew, which is alone sufficient to pacify the love of an ardent admirer, and to cast a rainbow of felicity throughout his terrestrial mansion, and to subside and annihilate these dubious and enthusiastic feelings, which alone become conquered in the atmosphere of the smiles of her who lives to be adored and dies to be regretted. Tom, however, being so much tossed about by the heart-rending smiles of his Venus, was determined to strike a plan which might produce a most salutary effect, and strike her imagination with a trepidity which would at once make her succumb to his desires; consequently Tom got regularly meshed up into a tribe of first and second cousins,

which were likewise fully aware of his ardent love for his Nancy, and also cognizant that he would not procrastinate any scheme or contrivance which would compel her to be his. Tom, in the interim, kept a strict vigilance over the motions of his fair one, and by no means relaxed his energy in finding out her favourite walks, one of which appeared to be along the quays of Dublin, and it was during one of these ventilating strolls that Tom's ocular vision seemed to be caught, and transfixed to the spot by the approach of his enamoured one, who seemed to be tripping it most lightly on the gay fantastic toe, and spouting forth in true cantatrice style some of her amorous outpourings of bygone days, which were most tangible and efficacious in taking deep seat in his heart. Her approach drawing nigh, Tom thought a most favourable opportunity presented itself to his view of regularly getting initiated into her good graces, and stamping his ignitable love for her, and for ever leaving an impression on her mind, that should she not yield to his desires, death must inevitably take possession of him and sever that affection for ever, and cast motionless that heart which pulsates for her alone, and lacerate those nerves which seemed wound up with vigour and energy, in order to seek for her a diurnal maintenance. Tom, having thrown off all his weighty garments, and having robed himself in the most lightsome attire which could be procured, determined to take an aqueous plunge in the Liffey, in order to drown for ever that inflammatory burst of love which at intervals seemed to be consuming his early prime, and to be drawing him nigh to that last of all coveted abodes; consequently, Tom at the onset made a fierce run for the Liffey, but was stopped in his impetuous career by the tribe of cousins, some of whom being of the female line, clung firmly in the tail of his coat, while others wound their arms around his waist, and uttered yells of so terrific a nature as to astound some of the passers by, who, when drawing nigh, were much amazed at the scuffle which ensued; there were visible also to the eyes of the spectators lacerated shifts, tattered slips, raggeddy gowns, heaps of dishevelled hair, sporting long tortoiseshell and superannuated bonnets, well pegged with artificial flowers, all of which were strewn about, well top-dressed with a sprinkling of bran, which also likewise served to trace the victorious heroines to their tranquil abodes; all these novel and picturesque sights drew the attention of many who were eagerly engaged in pursuit of their diurnal business, and who likewise lent a hand in restraining the fierce impetuosity of the ardent lothario, who struggled most vehemently to elapse out of their manual grasps; but all his serpentine motions were of no utility

whatsoever, the tribe of cousins by this time had had their claws firmly imbedded in him, and were determined that the skin of his back should serve him for a nightcap, by drawing it over his head, ere they should loose their well ingrafted holts. Tom by this time becoming relaxed in the nerves, and quite enervated from the severe claw-laniating that he underwent, resolved on surrendering up his body to the inflammatory desires of the cousins, whose sanguine expectations now became realized by the possession of his corpus. But while being finally captured his amorous blood became again ignited, and he broke loose, determined on a second aquatic plunge; the cousins, therefore, seeing his undeviating resolution, and taking it for granted that nothing would pacify the true Irish blood of a Gallon, or calm that invincible love he bore for his Nancy, but a submersion in the deep bed of the Liffey, or instant death, were determined to let him take his fling, let the consequence be what it would. Tom, therefore, rushed again for the river most eagerly in pursuit of a resting place which would drown all his cares, and for ever obliterate from his ocular vision the slightest vestige of his angelic Nancy, as while on this terrestrial sphere he seemed regularly haunted with her image, and maddened when bringing to his reminiscence those raven tresses which were scattered over her swanlike neck, and which completed beauty's form. Tom being exempt now from any amicable restraints, arrived at the brink of the river, having in the rush made flitters of all his garments, but paused for awhile previous to embarking in so fatal a speculation; the spectators now became doubly amazed at the serenity which seized Tom when left to himself, and also with what tranquillity he pursued his journey home, to brood over that mental perturbation which heretofore captured him, and was near extinguishing that vital spark, which at the sight of his Nancy used to be excited into a general conflagration; and believing his own case to be on a similarity with the Latin phrase, *Parva scintilla contempta excitat magnam incendiam*. Nancy, however, having learned from various neighbours, who rushed into her lodgings, that Tom was *kilt* and drowned all on her account, and that the poor boy could not do otherwise, for that he was regularly over hidd and ears in luvé, and cract into the bargain, and that the same chap was so blind with it that he did not know night from day, and was as ignorant of happiness as Nid Flynn's big puck goat was of polkea dancing, or Betty Neale's chatterin' gander of classical knowledge, and that she ought to be abashed at hersilf for laiding him to his ind by throwing luvé signs at him, and braking his poor hart ontirely with kindness, and parching up his poor soul with a burnin' luvé that could be only quinchid by

the big water in the river Liffey ; so now take your turn, ma'm, poor Tom is did and kilt, luv split his brain clain and kliver in two, and thin run him down under the water, and now he is as did as a duck, and as spaickless as a magpy ; and weren't you a bould, brazen strap of a little girl to bring such a load of trouble upon the hids of the breed of the Gallons, daicint raired kreatures that niver hurt a spharrow excipt whin the drop would get stirred up in their pouches, and ruz to their hids, and thin, small blame to thim, shure their blood would be up and kindled, and an unlucky rogue he would be who would thin fall into their fiery grips—you may be sartain he was not born under the lucky planet, nither recaived his muther's blessin' afore he was pushed out apou the world, but was dilt upon by ould bewitched divils of women, and cards cut upon him, and tai spilt upon him, and the dregs of the cups read, and it writtin in bekummin and beautiful language, that he would have crasses afore him, and nittles behind him, and thistles in his nightcap, and briars in his socks, and the divil knows what in the pockett in his shirt, chilblains on his toes, and the divil aitin' the intrails out of him every day in the yaire, ai and evin the nails of his fingers pisoned like the blacks.

Nancy having received a satiety of news concerning the departure from this transient abode of her Tom, and being deeply grieved that she should be the occasion of so direful a catastrophe, gave vent to her feelings in a flood of tears, and issuing out from her mansion, in order to elucidate to the citizens a true Irish scene, she at once threw herself on her back in the most conspicuous part of the street, and there kicked up a scene which baffles all description : she dragged her darkened tresses in handfuls from her head, she bit her arms most frightfully, she laid sanguine marks of her nails upon her heretofore serene countenance, and she uttered screeches and yells of murder and robbery which were audible for miles in the city, and which drew the attention of the police at once, who raised her with the greatest gentleness, and laid her reclining against the hall-door of a house, the proprietor of which came out and administered water, but to no effect—she had, as the Irish say, fallen in a sthump, and remained motionless, and as it required something of a more stimulating nature to bring her to, consequently whiskey, that all-potent and effective cure, was given to her, and no sooner had it entered her mouth than she at once seemed cognizant of her ancient friend and auxiliary, who at once elevated her from her very prostrate position, and placed her in quite a perpendicular attitude, and also awakened a sense of sublimity in her very dejected countenance, which had undergone a variety of changes from her late bewildered state ; she however pro-

gressed most favourably, and was able to be once more upon her supporters, when led *gradatim*, and when her faculties were restored to her, she was much thunderstruck at hearing of the severe agony she underwent, and the accumulation of trouble she seemed to bring upon herself. But, believing in the Latin phrase, *nemo mortalium sapit omnibus horis*, she had to content herself with her present position. Tom, however, having become quite convalescent from the mauling that he had received from the hands of his cousins, was determined, if such did not prove efficacious, that he would forthwith abandon all hopes of ever being able to win the affections of his Nancy, who was at this time fully aware of his most fervent attachment; whereas he was ready to suffer death for her sake, being nearly immolated at the shrine of his passion, and victimized at the gates of her leveliness. Tom, in the interim, looked high and low for his Venus, but all proved ineffectual—the bird had flown, and sought for repose amidst the stormy billows of this world's sea—she had domesticated herself in some terrestrial paradise, where the frantic notions of man could never enter, she got secluded up in the mansion where first her strength failed her, and became an Abigail to the said proprietor; consequently, having become immured within the precincts of this nun-like habitation, she seemed scarcely able to exist, but at the same time eluded human gaze, as the sight of such compelled her to take a retrospect of affairs, and would strike her vision with a dim atmosphere, clothing her path with wretchedness, and revivifying in her those feelings which a woman only knows. Tom at this time being blunted in all his prospects, and deadened in his feelings from a constant round of disappointments, resolved on breaking new ground in search of some female enchantress; consequently he set out for England, and arrived in Manchester about the month of August, when everything appeared most tangible to his mind, the aviary inhabitants warbling their sweet notes seemed to recall to his memory the days in which his own dear little Irish cantatrice moved his ossified heart by the pathos of her sweet melodies, and cast a brilliant ray of sunshine throughout his paths, paving his future prospects with the hope of success, and mantling his sojourning here below with a crown of eternal happiness, anticipating a career of unmolested bliss amidst the struggles and toils of this transient abode. Such very pleasing reflections seemed to hover round the head of Tom whilst traversing New England; and when constantly in harvest operations he would often stand still in deep contemplation, as if his conscience was smiting him for being the perpetrator of some cadaverous crime, or nefarious deed, that was visited with deep remorse, and haunted his mind

during his diurnal toil. Tom, however, could never feel that soothing effect of love, neither that contentment of mind which was requisite to make him bear up against the day's toil; English manners and English customs were quite unpalatable to him; he perceived a rigidity in their style that did not at all comply with his wishes or correspond with his actions; the absence of home also dwelt heavily with him. Erin's verdant fields now presented a most enviable luxury to his mind; her symmetrically formed and ruby complexioned daughters were constantly haunting his brain. The fields which marked the footprints of his boyish days never left his reminiscence, but conveyed to his palpitating heart bygone days of happiness and quietude, when everything beamed before his eyes with that sportive playfulness and jocund burlesque which is so captivating to the eyes of a boy, and so characteristic of their feelings. But now, alas! the picture is reversed; Tom being housed in England must do as England does. His most favourite fomenting drink, called whiskey, is quite incognito to the English, its place is supplied by a liquid called stout; his soiree battles and lengthened courtships are likewise unknown; his love-like suicidal movements are also cast into the shade, and Tom after some time thinks that he is let down into the land of dreams, that happiness has ceased to flow for him, and that he has become stagnant in the pool of adversity. Tom, in the interim, perceiving his employment, which was that of an operative, to be of a lucrative nature, firmly adhered to it, in order to lay up some pecuniary means, to enable him to make a suitable selection in life for himself. He, however, continued his diurnal toil with the greatest of perseverance and steadiness, but never could arrive at a competency, in order to carry his design into execution; therefore machinations were the only means by which he could ever arrive at what he considered ought to be the chief aim and object of every human being upon this earth, and the chief stream of happiness to all their terrestrial solaces; consequently, it was during work one day in the fields, when Tom very accurately observed a gent of very stately demeanour approach him, and on his drawing nigh he inquired of Tom, did he know of any one in the work that would be likely to answer for a gamekeeper, that he was in much want of one, as people were constantly in the habit of poaching on his preserves and making inroads on vast parts of his territories, and to put a barrier to such was his chief intent. Tom all this time remained in a most taciturn state, and weighed well in his mind the vast advantage such a post would be to him; for, in the first instance, he was exceedingly fond of pugilistic manœuvres, and also by no means deficient in projecting

missiles of a preponderous nature, should his combatants have a thirst for such a native amusement; he also knew that he would be supplied with a gun and ammunition, and where then is the one that dare stir up his Hibernian blood, or poach upon his preserves. Tom, however, in reply to the gent's question, assured him that he did not know of one who would be likely to answer him, but that if he would give him a trial, he would find that matters would go on very satisfactory, and that as the situation required a person sometimes to put their strength into execution, nothing in the world would give him greater pleasure than accepting it; for he considered manual exercise the highest accomplishment that man could possess, and besides an amusement of no every day occurrence, especially in England.

The gent at first seemed very much pleased with the frank manner of Tom, and considered his levity of conversation quite *apropos* of his race; but having replied in the affirmative to many questions that Tom put to him, it causeth a placidness in Tom's manner, but at the same time did not give him that satisfaction that he required, for this gent, who moved through the fashionable circles of life under the appellation of Frank Maguire, was a person of a fine graceful figure, with that *distingue* appearance which at once indicated that he had sprung from noble blood, and had none of the would-be gent about him, but was a luminary in the zenith of his professional glory, and blazed forth in the front ranks of aristocracy. He also had a deformity in the posterior part of his mouth, that is the soft palate, which consists of a membranous curtain of muscular and cellular tissue, and which defect gave him a nasal intonation, which displayed to the greatest of disadvantage his vocal strain, making his articulation sometimes quite incomprehensible, and entirely out of the reach of human intellect, insomuch that his responses to Tom seemed sometimes as a rehearsal of some foreign language, or what is called in Ireland bog-Latin. This Mr. Maguire was by profession an attorney, and appeared to be much taken by a particular trait in Tom's character, which was quite conspicuous to him, and which caused him at once to enlist Tom in his service. It appears at this time Mr. Maguire had a plaint in his possession which he over and over tried to get served upon a magistrate who lived quite adjacent to him, but all his attempts proved ineffectual; at last, taking Tom to be a most rare genius, he put it into his hands. Tom, therefore, set out on his most dangerous adventure, and I will rehearse to you his success as given by his sister Peggy, which ran thus:—

“There was a justice of paice—they are called magystrates by the qualitty—and he lived hard by to Tom and his masther. Will, this

justice carriaged through life under the call of Lawrence O'Neill, a fine strappin' fillow, will put togethir, with tight will-shaped calves, middle hoit, a smirkin' eye, and a dandy countenance. Will, this justice owed a mighty thunderin' sum of munney, and intindid niver to pay a jiffey of it, as the bist mains to kaip up his istablishmint apon a daicint footin', altho' he had slatherins of munney to pay the debt, but betune ourshelves he was an arrant skaimer. Will, anyhow, the attorney, Tom's masther, was a man of braidin', but his appairance ran thus—he had a hard krusthy forehead, that ushed to chip at the smill of could winther; he had a will-saioned conscience, particularly in drawing up bills of chosts; he had two eyes and two airs, and could see and hare viry will, espically whin a body would ax his advice, and he had a parchment hart that was so thick that you could scarcely write moderation apon it at this time. Will, for a sartainty this attorney had the lattytat, or complaint, as the loyers call it, aginst this magystrate, and could git no parson to sarve him, on account of four big whalin' Terrialts of min who garded the justice's house and domain from the pushins and forcins of bailiffs. Will, whin all failed, the attorney, who Tom thought was an airy gentleman, called upon him, and ups and tould him the whole story, which Tom cocked his air to, and whin the attorney was dun spaikin' he said, 'Now I have you, and as shure as the woman said that those that have cattle must be loosin' some, when she lhost her goat, I will git into the justice's house.' Will Tom, you know, as I will give you a lilt at his karatur at this time, accordin to my view, and you know nothin' baits it now-a-days, was pritty will baitin and sobered down from carcumsthances, and he had a kunnin' appairance and a kool manner, which made him whalk into a body's affairs all at once, he had alsho a wide mouth which ushed to swallow every sintince in a mouthful. Will, anyhow, he was loked apon by this attorney as a mighty coxcomical janius, and a pickerin' conniver on a dangerous exploit. Will, my brave Tom was handid the latytatt, and what do you think does he do, but he goes mighty convaynient to the polise barraks, and gits behind an ould wall, and bores a hole in it, detarmined to have a paip, and what did he obsarve? I'll tell you. He sain an ould hag in the barrack room, named Ginny O'Keefe, and polise about her, for she was their sarvant attindance, and she tossing cups, and sayin' she sain carriages, and cars, and postillions, and a beautiful lady drissed in shilks and satins, and dicked in jewels and diamonds, and top nots of gould upon her, and the divil knows what, kummin' as fasht as her ligs could carry her, ai and fasther, for one of the polise, and that it was to be, and that supphosin' he hid in the black

whole, it was no ushe, for he would be lugged out and go through his destiny. Will, this ould hag sat foreninstone of the polise, at the sunny side of an ould taipot, and she did puff thalk out of her like staim out of an ingine, and shometimes she would sthop her chat, and shay that she was no mushroom lady, and that she did not kum into the world yisterday, nither was she brought out under a duck; at thother times she would whistle prate out of her that would rise the tatch of a farmer's house, but anyhow generally spaikin' she always had a hum up just aqual in sound as if all the kittles in Ireland were singing to wet the tais. But anyhow Tom eyed all in the barraks, and popped his hid above the wall, thin ducked it agin, pops agin, and ducks agin. Will, the polise thin sain him, and clusthered to consult on his suspicious appairance, as Paip-of-day Boys, and Molly Maguires, and Terryalts, were movin' about the chountry as thick as midges, and thaken a sthray shot at an old poliseman, and shometimes baggin' their game, and other times only wingin' thim, and always on the have a care, affeard they would be sain or informed of; at other times they are obsarved shootin' paicable landlords, and improvin' risin' agints, and at other times haulin' a slip from the ash corner, and from the hails of her ould mother, far away to their own rendevous, and she bittin' and skraubbin' for the bare life. But raider you musht know that a kraitur stritched ful lint upon a joultin' car, and the back of her pole bobbin' aginst one of the lats, to kaip time with the movements of the hannimal, and two straw ropes acress her ligs, and two more fastners acress her arms, and a whisp of hay sthuck in her mouth, is not to be luffed at, for that is a rail Irish runaway, that is, among the poorer short. Will, the polise advanced apon Tom, and cript apon him, and saized him, and axed him what was the intint of his business. Whin Tom ups and sais that he was admirin' the beautiful bildin' of a barraks, and the nait polisemin. 'Will,' says the sargint, 'your capurs were suspicious, and you are on no good intint.' 'Maybe so,' sis Tom. 'Where are you from?' sis the sargint. 'From bould Tipperary,' sis Tom. 'The land of all Terryalts and Ribbonmin,' sis the sargint. 'You lie,' sis Tom. 'Come, no more of that, my gay fellow. You musht cum this morthial minute with me to the narest magistrate,' sis the sargint. 'With all my hart,' sis Tom, and shure enuff he was lugged afore the hidin' magistrate, who, whin he saw Tom with the polise, cried out from his top window, 'Who have you there, polise?' 'A Tipperary Terryalt, your worship,' sis the sargint. 'All right,' sis the magistrate, whin he boult down all at once from his hidin' left, or concealmint garrit, and lipt into the prisence of Tom, and axed him where he was from, and Tom said

swait Tipperary, where man or baist nivir balked their lip, nor refused their white wather. 'Will,' sais the justice, 'you musht be imprisoned till brought up the nixt court-day.' 'O your worship,' sis Tom, 'shure that is a hard sintince to pass upon a kreatur, for I have as good a karakter from my parish priest as erea buiy from this to home.' 'Show it to me,' sis the justice. 'Bedad I will,' sis Tom, 'and give you the plaisin' contints of it, too,' sis Tom. The justice rid it, and was terryfied beyand lingths, and shouted out, 'Polise, take the raskal out of my sight, he has sarved me with a lattytat.' 'Sarvice acknowledged, your honour,' sis Tom; 'and now, Mr. Konsthables, as ye have so kindly konducted me here, I now throw myself under your kind protiction home.' So Tom was cumpanied home, and he was the thalk of the whole wurld, and the cant of the whole town was 'sarvice acknowledged, your worship.' For, even if the phost-masther nocked at your dure, and handid in a litter, he would say, 'Sarvice acknowledged, your honour.' "

Tom now being in much favour with his master, from the very ingenious machination that he put into execution, was determined to enter upon his duties as game-keeper with the greatest of hilarity and enjoyment. But he had not been long installed in office, till a circumstance of the most extraordinary nature occurred, which regularly filled the neighbourhood with astonishment, and made the name of Tom ring in their ears for many a day to come. It is as follows:—

Tom having all the necessary instructions that his situation required, entered upon his duty the first week in August, and seemed much rejoiced at the pleasing prospects which presented themselves to his imagination; for such is the rainbow which our infantine imagination observes in the spangled heavens, and which our infantine heart yearns after, but no sooner within grasp than it dissolves, and leaves behind it the dark cloud of disappointment. Still, Tom anticipated a career of lucrative employment amidst the ambiguities of his very wavering office, and still pushed on with that energy and zeal for which his countrymen are so proverbial in a strange land, and which energy always subsides when located in their native spot. For when at home they imagine they feel that strong chord of fraternal feeling which ought to exist between countrymen, and which ought to be tightened more by the tie of consanguinity. But such ideas prove ruinous in the extreme, for this world is merely a theatre, every person acting a part in it, to the best of their abilities, either to gain popularity, or fired by the cupidity of pecuniary aggrandizement, and, consequently, unmindful of the interests of others. But, dear reader, mark what I say, "Behind the scenery lie

concealed the mysteries of human nature, robed in the gaudy attire of deception, whose fawnings, and blandishments, and serpentine motions decoy man within their coils; yes, youth in the spring of life, the summer of manhood, the autumn of descending vigour, and the winter of tottering feebleness, and finally the decumbiture of life, till ultimately man is lapped in that grave, and heavily mantled with the crumbling earth, and before his obituary had something to learn."

After some time Tom found nothing in the aviary line to be safe when within range of his field piece. But it was during one of his field days in the wood, when, to his utter amazement, his ears were saluted by the noise of several guns, which he conjectured were nigh at hand, from the very loud reports that reached him. He, however, followed on in the track from whence the sounds issued, and soon after found himself in company with five poachers, who came, well armed and fully equipped, determined to make a good stand-up fight. Tom, on observing so formidable a fortress present itself to his view, was determined to surprise them by a stratagem; consequently, he raised a noise behind their backs, which drew their attention, and then very sagely slipt aside and let fly the contents of his two barrels in amongst them, causing the greatest consternation, and likewise most frightful havoc—three out of the five having fallen victims to his large shot, and well-directed aim; and no sooner was Tom eyed out by the two who escaped unhurt, than they immediately rushed in upon him, and a dreadful hand-to-hand fight ensued, Tom striking dangerous blows at intervals with the stock of his gun, while at other times he bit most ferociously, bringing flesh and cloth together with his much looked for grasp. At other times his yells for assistance were audible for miles, but no one was forthcoming to his aid. At last he had to give in, being completely overpowered; and the poachers, having tied his hands behind his back, led him off a prisoner, till finally they halted at a mansion of a most picturesque appearance, being situated on an elevated piece of land, and commanding, for miles around, a most extensive view of the surrounding country. Tom, becoming domesticated in said mansion, was given time to brood over his present position, which, in his eyes, was anything but an enviable one, because for what purpose they had brought him there he could not form the slightest idea, neither why they did procrastinate their intentions, as on his arrival he was sure that he would be greeted with whatever destiny awaited him; and let it be bad, or let it be good, he was determined to meet it as a man, and, moreover, as an Irishman; consequently, his feelings were wound up to the greatest state of enthusiasm and exasperation, at the different

looks which passed from one poacher to another, and it struck his mind most forcibly that they were pondering what kind of death they would give him. At last one of them vanished out of his sight, while the other kept a strict vigilance over him, and never for one moment seemed to take his eyes off him, which vulnerated Tom's feelings very much, he, no doubt, considering himself deeply insulted, and being incapable of revenging himself on his antagonist. Straight opposite Tom also sat a female of a most graceful aspect, whose golden, undulating tresses, and dark resplendent eyes, denoted her a person of no menial parentage, and whose bewitching appearance at once softened that irony which had heretofore labelled Tom's physiognomy. His ossified and icy heart began to melt under the influence of her sunny smiles; his flushed lip and ruffled brow became calm and smooth under the atmosphere of her playful innocence, his destiny, which was marked and sealed in his own eyes as fatal, now relapsed into the fond hopes of being one day or another able to press to his bosom the locks he so fondly cherished, and the image he so tenderly adored; for no matter how much difficulties presented themselves to Tom's view, yet, notwithstanding all such, when a lady of prepossessing appearance exhibited herself, all became drawn and annihilated in the magnetic power of her smiles, and victimized at the gates of her loveliness. For such was his weak point; and such is life: the weakness of one man is a prop to the other, and the extinguisher of the lamp of one man the feeding of the wick to another. Tom, however, remained in the one spot nearly motionless for hours; at last the missing poacher arrived, having, as he stated, done his work, which conveyed also to Tom's mind, that he was interring the dead, afraid any trace might be found which would lead to the apprehension of himself and his comrade. Tom, consequently, awaited their final decision, which was either to obliterate for ever his name from the memory of the living, or to have him enthroned as one of the happiest individuals here upon earth, by placing him side to side with the lovely being who so tenderly gazed upon him, and from whose deep sensitive looks he drew the greatest consolation and happiness, anticipating one day or another the capture of her symmetrically formed figure, and the possession of her alluring and graceful smiles, never for one moment considering the world of uncertainties he lived in; for Tom was always taken off his guard and reflection by the presence of one of the softer sex, and especially when they basked out in all that glow of radiant loveliness which is alone sufficient to dazzle the eyes of man, and to hold the mind spell-bound to the spot—casting that warmth of feminine expression which

is so characteristic of their race and heart-rending to the soul of man. Tom, however, still remained in a state of suspense, situated in the middle of two extremes, one of which he must assuredly undergo ere many hours should roll over his head, anxiously awaiting either his final excommunication from this terrestrial sphere, or the onset of his future happiness, which would be the complicating of the hymeneal knot between him and his adored Venus. A deep taciturnity, however, reigned throughout the mansion, and such was broke by the poacher relieving Tom from his manual entanglement, and letting him loose once more to the world, on his making solemn promises that he would never inform of them, and that likewise he was perfectly welcome to pay his addresses to the young girl who sat opposite to him, and he rested assured, that, should he seem willing to do so, their ideas would be quite reciprocal, having previously made inquiries as to her feelings on that point. Tom, however, now being released from his prison, and his manacles being loosened, was determined, first of all, to pay a visit to his master, and to draw a little upon his imagination, by telling him that whilst out shooting he fell sick under a severe malady, and had forthwith to be conveyed to a neighbour's house, where he met the most extreme kindness from the people therein. Such a story, however, went down most glibly with his master, Tom having drawn the long bow so admirably well, and having polished it over by assuming a most dejected countenance, such as invalids have after rising from the bed of sickness. Tom's master, who figured about in the professional circles of life, was a native of Devonshire, and a most trustworthy man in every sense of the word, and very much respected by the gents far and near, on account of his most pleasing disposition, and likewise his urbanity of manner; he also possessed the most unlimited charity at this time, and having taken a deeper view than mundane prosperity, his hand of benevolence was stretched far and near throughout the impoverished huts of the country, and carried with it the mark of fraternal Christianity, and bore along with it a multiplicity of benedictions from the middle classes, who were most acute observers of all his generous acts, and who likewise served in extolling his unbounded generosity throughout the country. He could be also observed hovering about the beds of the sick poor, administering to their wants, having crept in a kneeling attitude into the miserable abodes, which sheltered the wretched mendicants, and exhibited the signs of penury and nudity, which are at the present day most prominent features in many of the cabins of the Irish peasantry—their richer brethren not looking to their wants, neither considering their welfare; and the reason is simply this, be-

cause Christianity has taken no seat in their hearts, and likewise because, having never felt the smart of poverty, they do not know or consider the pressure of difficulties that weighs down the heart of the unfortunate victim of mendicancy, neither do they consider, in laying up that store, which will be far more profitable hereafter, than in accumulating the gaudy tinsel of this world, which may, in the twinkling of an eye, be severed from their minds and hearts for ever, and only leave as a memento that they lived despised, and died unregretted—for life is but a flash of the lightning, a break of the wave. Yes, such men may build castles in the air, and must inevitably see them fall into ruins at their feet—for time will consume all things; but there is nothing stable, nothing satisfactory, nothing permanent but the rock of salvation—and upon that rock build your faith, and the polluted and turbid streams of this world's vanity shall not wash it away; neither shall the popular tide of carnal affections undermine its firmness. Tom, in the interim, having got initiated into the good graces of his master, and believing all things to be quite serene and pleasing, and taking a survey over the vast demesne of which he considered himself lord and master, and taking a view of the picturesque scenery which presented itself to his observation, for placed on one side of him was sylvian shades, unbroken by any sound, save the warbling of the aviary inhabitants, on the other side stood a thick plantation of brushwood and evergreens, which completely eluded the keen gaze of the casual passer by; in the rear of him stood with majestic awe the venerable old oak, whose wide spreading branches served sometimes as a refuge to his much fatigued frame, but still something was wanting to complete this terrestrial paradise; the demesne was vacuum of a twig, for such was the only shrub which decorated yonder hill, and shone as a star which cast its brilliant rays across Tom's perambulations, and gladdened his heart when drawing nigh to the place from whence it set. It was his aurora and vesper star, the emporium of all his affections, and served as a beacon to light him through this wearisome world, and to guide his wandering footsteps right. It was his alpha and omega, and no matter how much pleasing prospects presented themselves to his eyes, paving his path with hope and happiness, yet without her, the object of his affections, all was obscurity, and only served to help the wandering traveller to his home of disquietude; and only served to demonstrate to him that until that vacuum was filled up, and that twig planted in the picturesque demesne of which he was care-taker, that he could never traverse the paths of serenity and contentment. No, not all the warbling of the melodious little birds which, with joyful notes, greeted the welcoming of happy

summer; neither the vocal gentleness of the lambs, whose innocent sounds vibrated through the sylvan shades, and conveyed to man's heart the glad tidings of summer's approach and the innocence which is so characteristic of their race, yet all these ran far short of the one thing most needful; all was a monotony without her presence, and a loathsome drag on the audible powers of man. His ears were muffled to the wild strains of the aerial tribe, his heart was callous and ossified to the sweet tones of innocence. His optic vision was obscured to the picturesque scenery of nature, and all things appeared to taint his breathing with a foul and polluted air, and to dry up the heart springs of his genuine felicity, which, at the present, seemed stagnant and muddled with the sounds of terrestrial objects, and can only emanate and become transparent by the vocal pathos of his dear little cantatrice, whose sweet and playful notes oftentimes reached him in his diurnal tramp, and revived in him those feelings which an ardent lover only knows, and inspired him with a hope beyond anything earthly. Tom, therefore, was wound up to the greatest state of enthusiasm in paying his avocation at the mansion of his beloved one, contemplating at the same time the sad tragedy that heretofore presented itself to his eyes; and how such an act of so prodigious a nature could remain taciturn so long, especially as there were, in that part of the country, so many garrulous people, some of whom, like many of the world, minded their neighbours' affairs while they neglected their own, *intentis negotiis amicorum negligere sua*, and were consulted on all occasions, like the oracle of Apollo; and whose sage responses were dragged down and stamped with as much credulity as the prophecies of old. Tom, however, collapsed into a state of stupor, between ambiguity and reality, concerning the reception he should meet with, although having got a previous intimation of his welcoming, for he prudently and gravely considered that so sanguine and fatal a struggle, which had taken place long since, and which severed an amicable tie, which must have existed amongst the parties, that all such could not be obliterated from their memories, neither erased from their minds, and that being domesticated with them, he might ere long fall a sacrifice to their brutalities; and now, unkennelled as he was, he could not be very easily taken advantage of; for, as he said himself, he always had his eyes about him, and was ready for his antagonist at the first deadly spring, as previous to such a profound silence always ensues, and conveys to the victim that consternation is at hand, and that nerve and strength are not to be procrastinated, but resorted to instantaneously, as the only means of success; and as Tom says, the first blow is half the battle.

Still willing to give vent to those very excited feelings, which he was labouring under, he paid his avocation at the mansion of his beloved one, and was received in the most cordial manner by all the domestics, and warmly shook hands with by the lovely virgin herself, whose sweet smiles and winning looks completely turned him upside down, and gave him a double relish for the angel who so incautiously let them slip from her, she never for a moment calculating that they could cause such havoc on the human constitution, and embitter the existence of one, who had so deeply fallen a victim to the radiant sunbeam of the destructive gleam, or a sacrifice to the artless brilliancy of woman's eyes, which likewise serves as a beacon to light us, poor pilgrims here upon earth, to heaven, and by that gentleness of mind to impart a sympathy that would smoothen down the roughest heart. Tom having got now initiated into the good graces of his fair one, and considering that delays were dangerous, determined to pacify his mind, by popping the question to her, and by so doing, he considered he could take a very good survey of future prospects, being well aware of either of the final resolutions which would be put into execution; and such were, that he would either become a husband to the said girl, or that his death was sealed and stamped. Such cases of extremes, however, did not seem to ruffle his plumage, for he always delighted to be either one way or the other, or, as he himself called it, either a man or a mouse. However, as far as Tom could learn, he seemed to take a favourable view of matters, and conjectured deeply in his mind the vast accumulation of danger they would lay themselves open to by depriving him of his existence; while, on the other hand, their free and voluntary consent, in matrimonial matters, would serve them to lighten the burden of their household, and alleviate their sufferings, for they were deeply stricken at this time with penury, and bereft of most of their boon companions; for such associates can only be fenced in where the pasture is good and presents a rich appearance; when it is in a state of nudity, they then trespass on other person's clover. Tom, however, after some days, found, to his greatest ecstasy, his hopes about to be realized—his Desdemona receiving him with that courteous politeness and gentleness of mind, which is so characteristic of the race, and which redounds so much to their credit; and which finally tells so much upon the heart of an impulsive Irishman, driving his enthusiastic brain betimes to the greatest state of excitement, only to be subsided by the fair and gentle glance of the donor, who is never backward in casting her heart-aching smiles at her Lothario, in order to keep her fairly balanced in the matrimonial scales. Not many

days had elapsed, however, before Tom put in his proposal, and was accepted with the most cordial frankness, not only by the fair damsel herself, but also by the domestic circle—even the menial of the establishment lavishing the greatest encomiums on his unbounded generosity and kindred affection, as she considered him now as one of themselves; and she was happy to say she was a native of the same soil, and, if she knew but all, maybe related, for she considherd that Irishmin were always strait, forward, pushin', bould min, who would not be loth in tillin' their arrant at once, and the divil a bit but that is what the shame English lassis likhes. Don't tell me shuch, but ax me, for I am roulin' among thim now these five yares, and I find a sthrappin', frolicksome, gigantic, wholesome lad of an Irishman to knock more music out of thim than half a dozen of your shysystematical foreigners; for lit a girl luk ivir so abashed, ai, as if she evin wanted a board across her eyes, and a paryshole and two vails, yit, dipind upon it, she likes the boy that will carouse and jollify her, and rise her hart into the illimints with his jokes, for I always sain it, and sain is belavin'. Some paiple think if they push up to an English girl, with their sthately manners and dandy hed dress, and stharched up attytudes, that they are rigular hart-brakers, and kant be pushid off; but upon my solem honour, and I am a poor girl, and ill till the truth and shame the divil, they don't care a jack sthraw, or a kick of your shin for such chaps, for there is sivinteen yards lenth of more fun and joke playin' in the girls than there is in the buiys, and four sthone weight of more pluck in the line of matrimony. They are my ducks evin for match makin', and puttin' their fingers in the pie. But to bait back upon the foreigner, and I'll till you for a sartainty the objectionable ingredient that is mixed up in their composition, and that is, particularity and regularity. They luk at a girl, and if there is a pin asthray in hokin' up her driss, they luk at it; or if her driss is loose in the back, by the hokes flyin' or by the rail dint of tightinin' and figure improvin', they skoff at it and view thim as if they were a paip show, or that they were the railway and they the indianers; but my brave boys of Irish what do they do, they dunt kare a thraneen or the kick of a lhame duck, if the girls were hoked with holdfasths, and that their sthays were made of horsi's ribs, and they clad also with the skhin of the baist, laivin' ears and all apon it, so as they had a purty face, and a coksyn eye, they were my darlints; the devil a particularity in thim, they evin are not particular about how much they drink, but they are as to how much they aite, for they sildom hold aitin' munney, for thirst is twice as dridfull a dith as hungir, for shuch dries you

up lik a cindir, and you begin to chip and break ashunder by degrais, and that is burnin' pain; but with hungir you git waik by inches, and are swipt off your fait cliver and clain. So now maybe I was on the road whin the schoolmasther was in the field, and whin he was givin' out knowledge I was locked up snug and warm in a ban-box; but anyhow I give my blissin' to the match, and the purty couple, and that they may niver sai a poor day, only have paice and plinty in abundance, and that they may niver know what it is to mait with misfortune; but that riches may be roulin' for thim iviry day in the yare, and that hilt and prosperity may niver put its nose out of their cabin, and that they may niver know what it is to be sick, sour, or sorry; and that their kitchin may be fairly bindin' down with the weight of pig mait, and that their flure may be swimmin' over with craim and milk, that their pockitts may be crackin' their stitches with the loads of munney, and that their night-caps may be fairly ruz of their hids with the stringth of their hair and the rail dint of substantial nutrymint, ai, and good hilt into the bargain; and that they may niver know what it is to want a mail of victuals; and that both of them may comb gray hids, and sai happy days, and be a blissin' to their childer, and to their children's childer for forty-five generations to come; that nuthin' undaycint may niver be thrun into their faces, nither informers or traitors be slapht at thim; and that their charakters may remain as frish as the flowers of May, ai, and perfume as will; ai, and that hill may be sivin hundred lagues from thim in their latter ind; for the shame gamekaiper was a rail brid gintleman, for he ushed to slip me a silver coin unonsed wheniver he would come to sai his swaithart; and, besides, he tould me from his own two lips, that he would take me to live with him whin he would be marryed and sittled for; and that he would give me tai twice a day, and two mait dinners, and co. at night; so is not that aquail to any English place; I defy a bitter supply of provision; and, besides, I bein' lady's maid, I know hersilf won't throw her coverin' out upon the manure haip, while she has me, for she is as good a short as ever was raired, she would at this prisint day give you to the lasht fidget upon hir back, and that shows the braidin', and that she is the rail sort of a gintlewoman, and sprung from quolity, and no misthake about it; and now I would like of all things to change places, for I am hartily shick of English grub; that yallow chaise is the very picture of yallow shoap, and the very tasthe, for I got a bit of it at the public-house, at the cross, as a trait from an Irish boy thuther day, and it burnid the blood in my body yallow, and gave me the yallow jaundice, and if I didn't suffir from shuch, call me Davy; I

had to cross the salt sai to Ireland in sarch of harb doctors, for if you had all the doctors pinned together in a string, from Cape Clare to the Land's Ind, they could not take a fither out of you for the shame lad of a dissorder, and at lasht I met a northern woman who cured me parfactly, and turned me as white as snow ; and shure now if you made a bridge of double glosther, or thrible glosther, chaise, from this to Amerikey, I would not lay a toe upon it, let alone a tooth, as it is a war out to my stomach iver since I aite it, and a terror to my eye. Tom, however, having got the free will and consent of all parties, was determined to bring matters to a final issue, and consequently appointed the day for the celebration of the nuptials; but previous to such taking place he was determined to let his intended one see a little of Irish life and Irish scenery. Consequently, having got leave from his master for one month, feigning as an excuse that his mother was on her last kick in Ireland, and wished of all things to see him, in order to give him her blessing, previous to her exit from this transient abode; his master, therefore, on so urgent an occasion, immediately complied with his wishes, and the next day was to be seen Tom and his intended spouse and box and baggage taking their departure from Holyhead Pier, surrounded by a vast number of porters and messengers of various kinds. Tom was to be observed also brandishing his bludgeon in defence of his luggage, as several appeared to be clinging out of it, he having not complied with the request of the first porter who demanded of him his articles in order to remove them to the boat, which had just put up sufficient steam for its departure; Tom, however, perceiving the communication between the land and the boat going to be finally severed, at last complied with the request of the porter, who instanter landed his articles into the boat. Tom followed on soon after in the track of the porter, but his luggage was *non est inventus*,—it was down in the hold, and therefore, being obscured to his optical vision, he laboured under the erroneous idea that it had changed owners, and was now really the property of the said porter who conveyed it hither, and then in the bustle and clamour glided away unobserved. Tom having most of the articles which was to decorate his Venus on her nuptial day, caged within his box, besides a habit or riding dress which he was taking over to Ireland, in order to make his Desdemona shine in the true light of a lady of rank ; knowing well that such habiliments were quite incognito to the poorer class in Ireland, and likewise would stamp the wearer down as a lady of indisputable parentage and undeviating principle, who, habitualized to the circle in which she moved and figured, could never do anything that was paltry

or low, and should likewise be respected according to the position she held in society. All the luggage, besides trinkets and jewellery, not of a very auriferous nature, being obliterated from Tom's view, he could no further restrain his impetuosity, for which his countrymen are so proverbial, and he forthwith commenced a scene which baffles all description, for he called, as his sister Peggy stated, "for the masther, or captain, or guvernor, or whatever per-jock he is in the natur of a sai monsther, and ups and tould him that he would make smitherains and splinters of his vissil, by kickin' the bottom out of her, if he would not git him his goods or till him the name of the thief of a porter who hugermugged him out of thim, 'for,' sais he, 'Mr. Captain, you musht pay for all the indaycencies your sarvants commit, and I'll hould your nose accountable to the grindin' sthone for it, and I'll summons you, and prociess you, and lat-tytat you, for all my goods, and my jewl's apparel, and jewellery, and riding surtoo. Did you know, Mr. Captain, I am about takin' this nait kreatur, which you sai furninst you, as a wife to myself.' Captain.—'Yes, Paddy, I see, but I would sooner you would have her than me.' Tom.—'What do you mane, you sea cursin' rogue? Is it bekease you have me in your ould tub, jostlin' me about on the countenance of the daip sai, that you think you can inshult me, who niver turned my back upon an offince yit, and it is not cum to that with me now, I hophes.' Captain.—'I say, Jack, take this fellow abaft the pinnacle, and give him twelve lashes, and if he grumbles or puts one word out of his mouth, cast him out into the sea.' Tom.—'Kasht me out into the sai, is that what you say? it is aisier said than dun. Don't think it's your long sarchin' line you have, but rimimber you have the rail true hart's blood of an honest Irishman, ai and hisswaithart into the bargain.' Captain.—'Out with him, sailors, let him smell the sea water, it will stop his nose if it won't his mouth, let the play go how it will.' Tom.—'Sthop my noshe! O be aisy, maybe I would show you something that would sthop your two eyes from iver sain' a wink.' Captain.—'Out with him, and tie a rope to his leg.' Tom.—'Is that it; maybe you think it's a baist you have. No, sorrow a bit, but I would take my affidavit before a binch of magystrates, that you are stark, starin' drunk, and not able to guide a cockle-shill, and here we are, all of us, wife and all, under your marcy. And your hell-fire club of seimin, you thunderin' rogue, what tuk howlt of you this blissid mornin' that you should kum out in shuch a stathe, with your eyes like two comits in your hid, and your mouth like Mount Etna, pouring out fire, curshes, and thrits upon the daicent people who have ped for their futtin'; but I would not blame you, but give

you the greatest of paise for gittin' drunk whin upon land, and littin' nobody say black was the white of your eye, or yallow was the but of your lug, but to be unsteady upon sai is no laffin' matther, for if a bug only aite a hole in the bottom of the vissil, we were all to the bottom of the sai in a crack.' Captain.—' Yes, Paddy, and a nice inhabitant you would be in the bottom of the sea, a nice associate for the fish tribe; and besides, as a ghost, you would be a frightful spectacle to all vessels that would steer adjacent to your haunted regions, and a safeguard to any of your countrymen who would be caught out in bad weather, and I suppose also you would be in possession of a bottle of the native, which would convey no unpleasant effluvia to their olfactory powers, neither an objectionable vision to their inquisitive peepers.' Tom.—' You thalk; it's the likes of you that dus, and you sthuffed up to the hed, airs, and throat with whiskey, this mortal minnet, and the taith chatterin' in your hid with the rail wurkin' of the sthuff itsilf, and the eyes swimmin' in your hid with the plaisin' ifficts of it. O yis, it is lads likhe you that goes on, for as long as I have harein', and sain', and larenin', and as long as I have lugs to katch the words of the ould thud, that the first person to call a body a rogue would be an unscrupulous thief himself, and the first person to call a drunkard would be a lad that niver twisthed a faiture at the swaiping off of a rousin' crapper; but paiple don't know thimsilves at all, at all, for it is a grand knowledge to larn, and while some paiple are rakin' under the ashes their naybors for roguery, villany, and all other like offences, yet at the shame time they thimsilves may be the greatist rogues in ixistence, and niver give their fist the custom of balkin' at anything, supposin' they were behind a daicent man's kounter, or in arm's length of a gould watch hangin' loose or careless in a gintleman's fob, and I alsho nicked apon my shtick, that paiple are as blind as baths to their own waiknesses and failins, while with the eye of a hawk they can discern their naybors' failins, ai and drag them from this to Amerikay through a dirty muddy pool, tied by the shank bone, firm and tight, by a shtraw rope. Now, misther shailor, you think Paddy is up to nothin', and that he walks through the world blind drunk, and his mouth open, and his fists clinched, and his nais knockin' together with pure divilment, but I tell you now to the conthrayry.' Captain.—' O yes! Paddy, I am perfectly aware of these manœuvres, or meanders as they call it themselves, and from what I can judge concerning them I take them to be a most disturbed class of individuals in themselves, and, moreover, given very much to all sorts of excitement; but, on the other hand—I can't go behind the bush with you, but I must tell you they are an

impulsive, warm-hearted people, and cling with the most firm tenacity when destiny perchance throws them in a foreign land, and where friends and auxiliaries are far distant; and, besides, more virtuous and open-minded than any other nation I have ever yet met with.' Tom.—'Apon my shoul it is you I belaiive, boy, and I sai by your lasht diskourse that we are tightnin' up frindship fasht; but, masther, can you git me my travillin' articles, for I have no bushiniss to inter Ireland athout thim—there are the marrage clothes of that purty kreatur on yonder sait; and, moreover, it was her own fancy and likin' to chuse me out of hundrids, and to depind and plant her affections upon me, and wouldn't I be a bare-faced raskal to ill-trait or disappoint the tinder kreature—she even lift all her grand cumpanions and relatives and cum with me alone across to Ould Ireland.' Captain.—'Yes, Paddy, you may say that when you get there.' Tom.—'Why, whisht Captain, shure you don't intind drownding us, for if I thought so I would have drissed my Venus there in shilks and shatins, and she would have floated for shore, with two big corks under hir arms.' Tom, however, arrived at Kingstown harbour, and was in the greatest state of ecstasy on the reception of his luggage, and doubly rejoiced on viewing the serene countenance of his lady love, whose graceful smiles and courteous nods manifestly demonstrated that Erin's soil presented no unenviable luxury to her very enlightened mind, neither presented any barrier to her future prospects. Tom being now in complete raptures at everything going so well with him, and likewise anticipating his future career of unmolested bliss, amidst the toils of this ambiguous world, set out immediately for the residence of his mother, who rejoiced under the appellation of Molly—a name most wonderful in the numerical line, and still of no diminution in the rising generation, and never will be as long as fortune-telling women pronounce the name to be lucky and prosperous in the most extreme. Tom pursued his journey with the greatest of vehemence, till at last he reached the much-looked for residence.

